



City of Middletown
CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

MINUTES
OCTOBER 19, 2016

Present

Chair Jennifer Kleindienst, Councilman Gerry Daley, Amy Albert, Augie DeFrance, Jeff Pugliese, Dmitri D'Alesandro (7:19 pm), ,

Absent

Audrey J. Scotti, Vincent Loffredo, Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski, Bill Willson

Also Present

Christopher M. Holden, PE, Staff, Michael Harris, Staff, Chris Jordan – Con\$erve
Dick Evarts and Kristin – Sunlight Solar

1. Chair Opens Meeting

The meeting opened at 12:30 P.M. Room 208 – City Hall

2. Approval of Minutes

Gerry Daley moved approval of the minutes for the September 21, 2016, seconded by Amy Albert, approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Anna Salo-Markowski - Resident

4. Energy Coordinator's Report – Michael Harris

- Benchmarking complete, it included a free audit. The free audit was completed on Snow School. They are under utilizing the controls, no VFDs on the pumps or fans.
- King Span – How would they approach projects with the schools – Solar/roofs with master plan.
- In order to promote conservation with businesses, meet with Con\$erve and Lantern (sp).
- Agreement on the Virtual Net Metering Credit Program was presented to the Public Works and Facilities Commission. A couple of outstanding issues, including Councilman Serra's concern about mitigating risk to the City.

5. Old Business

A. Higby Solar Array

The agreement has been vetted. ZRECs contract is already in effect and the 15 years are ticking.

Dmitri D'Alesandro had a concern of using herbicides under the solar array to clear the vegetation. There was discussion about possible native plantings under and around ground arrays.

This item will be added to the next agenda for further discussion.

B. Meeting Schedule for 2017

A doodle poll will be sent around to determine the best time, possibly early evening.

6. New Business

A. Energy and Resilience Planning

Michael Harris reported that the Mayor's office is aware of this process. There are four nodes for micro-grids.

Schools and Solar make sense based on the usage cycle. Eversource has incentives for this.

Dmitri D'Alesandro was at a community meeting where it was brought up about solar and schools. Also, suggested to maximize the solar efficiency that the panels can be water cooled.

B. Clean Energy Communities Free Workshop

This will be rescheduled with details.

C. Other

There is a grant of \$9,000 for specific programs. This could include an intern for an inventory/audit of the street lights. Another program could be an energy audit for the schools.

7. Solarize

A. Updates on Past Events and Progress

The first contract has been signed.

- i) The Bourrets volunteered to host the solar open house at their home at 85 Thornton Court. It was on October 15, 2016. Only one lead was obtained from the open house.
- ii) Lunch and learns at MxCC and Pratt & Whitney are completed.

B. Upcoming Events

- i) Workshop on 10/24 (7 PM, Police Community Room)
- ii) Wesleyan lunch and learn in November
- iii) November workshop at Galleria
- iv) Other events
 - (1) Have a table at the polling locations – possibly Moody, Wesley, Woodrow Wilson, or South Fire Department during 4-7 pm. Hand out information regarding the Solarize program.

C. Upcoming Tasks – Need Volunteers

- i. Hang signs for 10/24 event (downtown kiosks, library, restaurants, and South Fire) – 2-3 volunteers
- ii. Put up lawn signs (visible locations, ambassadors, etc.) – 2-3 volunteers
- iii. Connect with ambassadors – 2 volunteers
- iv. Other tasks

8. Other

Invite Michelle Ford, Planning & Environmental Specialist to the next meeting. She could help provide information regarding updating the Planning and Zoning Regulations regarding Solar Arrays.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 PM

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2016, to be held in Room 208 of the Municipal Building at 12:30 PM.

Submitted for approval by:

Christopher M. Holden, PE
Deputy Director of Public Works